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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

# INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

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**\*DOE REVIEW COMPLETED\***

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR.

**SUBJECT** New Uranium Mining District in the  
Oelsnitz-Auerbach Area

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SUPPLEMENT TO  
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New Uranium Mining District in the OELSNITZ-AUERBACH Area

1 April 1949

1. Billboard announcement at the PLAUEN RR station regarding the restricted area in the OELSITZ Landkreis. (Text see par 12, a).

End of March 1949

2. The last few days in March 1949 the town of BAD ELSTER (M 51/P 19) was included in the restricted area. Police controls were intensified and mail was subjected to stricter censorship since that time.

March 1949

3. Uranium was allegedly found in a sand pit near OELSNITZ. A new uranium mine shaft was opened southeast of PLAUEN in the vicinity of BERGEN. The labor office was said to have detailed 4,000 men and women to this site.

February 1949

4. The SMA prospected for uranium deposits in BERGEN near PLAUEN, in ZWOSCHWITZ near PLAUEN and in various other localities of the Vogtland district. Some areas were already marked.

End of March 1949

5. Propaganda bills for BERGEN (M 51/K 21).

Middle of February 1949

6. a. The PLAUEU Labor Office was requested in the first half of February to recruit 1,000 men to be employed in

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the BERGEN (approximately 8 miles ESE of PLAUE) area for rock drillings in search for uranium ores.

b. A PLAUE textile tradesman who was touring the BERGEN area also reported that he recently saw indications of large-scale mining activity.

#### March 1949

7. Two inhabitants of STO. LIEBEN/Erzgebirge (N 51/K 54) reported on 24 March 1949 that brisk prospecting activity was going on in BERGEN and STOECKIGT near PLAUE.

#### April 1949

8. The uranium mining area reached as far as BERGEN/Voetland and will probably also extend into the area in the vicinity of PLAUE. Exploratory drillings, some of them successful, have already been made near KRIETZSCHWITZ (N 51/F 37), STRASSEBERG (N 51/A 01) and KRIEHLER. A lode with an alleged content of 24 percent was discovered in SCHREIERSGRUEN/Voetland.

a. There was no indication that work would be discontinued in the uranium mining district. The labor force had not been decreased anywhere.

#### March 1949

9. The AUERBACH/Voetland was declared off limits on 4 March 1949. The towns of LENDENFELD, RODEWISCH and FALKENSTEIN were in the restricted area. Findings of Uranium-containing ore in the newly opened mines near SCHREIERSGRUEN and BERGEN were responsible for the cordoning off of this area. The PECHTELSGRUEN ore dressing plant as well as the mining district around TANNENBERGSTHAL were then located within the restricted area. The identity cards of the local population bore a red stamp.

#### March 1949

10. Prospecting<sup>was</sup> done in the FALKENSTEIN/Voetland, KRIEHLERGRUEN, AUERBACH, TANNENBERGSTHAL and BERGEN/Voetland area, and drillings at the Kahlberg and Lendelstein near AUERBACH.

#### March 1949

11. New uranium deposits occurring near the surface were discovered in the PLAUE area, but mining was difficult as the material needed for tubers and equipping the prospecting sites could hardly be supplied despite all efforts. Tubers for the conveyor and ventilator systems were especially short.

#### April 1949

12. a. On 1 April 1949 the FLOERSA and OELSNITZ/Voetland rural districts were declared off limits, this resulting in the customary traffic restrictions. A billboard announcement at the PLAUE railroad station listed the following restricted railroad stations: ADORF, BAD ELSTER, BERGEN, ERLBACH, FALKENSTEIN, GRUNEBACH, GUNZIG, HUNDSGRUEN, KLINGENTHAL, MARKNEUKIRCHEN, MULDENBERG, BAD BRAMBACH, RAUN, SACHSENBERG-GEORGENTHAL, SCHOENBECK, SILBERBRUNN, SOHL, ZWOTA, ZWOTA-ZESCHENBACH, ZWOTENTHAL.

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b. Teletype letter of the Reichsbahn:

"Sort B of Lre.Neu

No.7 of 9 April 1949

To all stations, "Tka", baggage dispatch offices, tourist offices, information offices, Reichsbahn offices, offices "V.B.A." V 118/119, December 30/33, Pa, Trade Union delegate, Reichsbahn Administration in BERLIN, COTTBUS, DRESDEN, GERICHSWALD, LAUEBURG, HALLE, SCHWERN.

Subject: Restricted RR stations, Pr.(3) V 102  
VPA of 10 February 1948

Effective immediately the number of restricted RR stations is increased by the following RR stations located in the AUERBACH/Vogtland rural district: AUERBACH/Vogtland upper station and lower station, EICH/Saxony, ELLEFELD, HANAUERBRUECKE, HIRLASGRUEN, IRPERSGRUEN, LOHENFELD/Vogtland, LIEBACH/Vogtland, MAUTENKIRCH, RODEWISCH, TANNENBERGSTHAL, THOSSFELD, TREUEN. Tickets to these stations can only be issued if a travel certificate of the Occupation Authorities is produced. Only those persons are excepted who reside or permanently work in these restricted localities.

Billboard announcements must be made.

MOSELLEN Reichsbahn Administration  
9 V 111 VPA"

c. Shutdown of a mine in BERGEN/Vogtland and opening of a new mine in SCHNEIERSGRUEN. (Information gathered from conversation with workmen) work in the recently opened mine in BERGEN/Vogtland was suspended due to low production results. The new mine in SCHNEIERSGRUEN located between TREUEN and FALKENSTEIN/Vogtland yielded above-average results and therefore remained in operation. The mine near and below the Pilzteich near SCHNEEBERG generally was considered as the most productive mining site.

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March 1949

13. The Soviets are prospecting for uranium ores in OBERBRAMBACH and in the BERGEN area. This resulted in cordoning off the OELSNITZ/Vogtland and AUERBACH/Vogtland rural districts.

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